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#### EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EL746147688US

#### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1	1.	A method for performing database operations, the method comprising the steps of:
2		reading a first plurality of elements of a first query from a first set of one or more tables
3		assembling a query string from the first plurality of elements;
4		and
5		executing the first query string to retrieve results from one or more source data tables.

- The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of reading a first plurality of elements
   includes the sub-steps of:
  - reading a name of a second table from a first table; and reading a plurality of arguments for the query string from the second table.
- The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of assembling a query string that includes a first query language command and the plurality of arguments.
- 1 4. The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of reading a first plurality of elements of a
  2 first query from the first set of one or more tables further includes the sub-step of reading one or more
  3 names corresponding to one or more source data tables from the first table.
- The method according to claim 4, wherein the sub-step of reading a plurality of arguments for the first query language command from the second table includes the sub-step of reading a plurality of names of columns of the one or more source data tables from the second table.

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1	6.	The method according to claim 5, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the
2	sub-	step of concatenating together a first plurality of elements that include the name of the one or more
3	sour	ce data tables and the plurality of names of columns.

- 7. The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of reading a second query language command from the first table.
- 1 8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of reading a plurality of names 2 of columns of a target data table from the second table.
  - 9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of concatenating together a second plurality of elements that include the second query language command and the plurality of names of columns of the target data table.
    - 10. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
      reading a second plurality of elements of a query from a second set of one or more tables;
      assembling a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of elements
      and
      executing the data base table storage command string in order to modify a target data table.
- A method according to claim 10, wherein said storage command string is Structured Query
   Language UPDATE command string.
- 1 12. A method according to claim 10, wherein said storage command string is Structured Query
   2 Language INSERT command string.

- 1 13. A method according to claim 10, wherein one or more tables in said second set of one or more
- 2 tables is also in said first set of one or more tables.
- 1 14. A method according to claim 10, wherein said second plurality of elements contain data used
- 2 to specify the order in which data elements are to be stored.
- 1 15. A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of executing said storage
- 2 command string so as to cause all or a part of said source data set to be stored.

1	16.	A machine-readable medium encoded with a program for performing database operations, said	
2	program containing instructions for performing the steps of:		
3		reading a first plurality of elements of a first query from a first set of one or more tables	
4		assembling a query string from the first plurality of elements;	
5		and	
6		executing the first query string to retrieve results from one or more source data tables.	
1	17.	The computer readable medium according to claim 16, wherein the step of reading a plurality	
2	of ele	ements includes the sub-steps of:	
3		reading a name of a second table from the first table;	
4		reading a plurality of arguments for the query language command from the second table;	
5		and	
6		executing the first query string to retrieve results from one or more source data tables.	
1	18.	The computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein the step of assembling the	
2	query	y string includes the sub-step of assembling a query string that includes a first query language	
3	comr	mand and the plurality of arguments.	
1	19.	The computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein the step of reading a first	
2	plura	lity of elements of a first query from the first set of one or more tables further includes the sub-step	
3	ofrea	ading one or more names corresponding to one or more source data tables from the first table.	
1	20.	The computer readable medium according to claim 19, wherein the step of reading a plurality	
2		guments for the first query language command from the second table further includes the sub-step	
3	ofrea	ading a plurality of names of columns of the one or more source data tables from the second table.	

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- 1 21. The computer readable medium according to claim 20, wherein the step of assembling the 2 query string includes the sub-step of concatenating together a first plurality of elements that include the 3 name of the one or more source data tables and the plurality of names of columns.
- 1 22. The computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein the program further contains 2 instructions for performing the step of reading a second query language command from the first table.
- The computer readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the step of reading a plurality of arguments for the query language command from the second table includes the sub-step of reading a plurality of names of columns of a target data table from the second table.
  - 24. The computer readable medium according to claim 23, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of concatenating together a second plurality of elements that include the second query language command and the plurality of names of columns of the target data table.
  - 25. The computer readable medium according to claim 16, wherein the program further contains instructions for performing the steps of:

    reading a second plurality of elements of a query from a second set of one or more tables; assembling a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of elements;
- 6 executing the data base table storage command to modify a target data table.
- 1 26. The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage command string 2 is Structured Query Language UPDATE command string.

and

- 1 27. The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage command string
- 2 is Structured Query Language INSERT command string.
- 1 28. The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein one or more tables in said
- 2 second set of one or more tables is also in said first set of one or more tables.
- 1 29. The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said second plurality of
- 2 elements contain data used to specify the order in which data elements are to be stored.
- 1 30. The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein the program further contains
- 2 instructions for performing the step of executing said storage command string so as to cause all or a part
- of said source data set to be stored.

1	31.	A data processing system comprising:
2		a storage device for storing a relational database; and
3		a processor programmed to:
4		read a first plurality of elements of a first query from a first set of one or more tables;
5		assemble a query string from the first plurality of elements;
6		and
		execute the first query string to retrieve results from one or more source data tables.
1	32.	A data processing system according to claim 31, wherein the processor is further programmed
2	to:	
3		read a second plurality of elements of a query from a second set of one or more tables;
4		assemble a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of elements;
5		and
6		execute the data base table storage command to modify a target data table.

1	33.	A data processing system comprising:
2		means for storing one or more data tables;
3		means for reading a first plurality of elements of a first query from a first set of one or more
4	tables;	
5		means for assembling a query string from the first plurality of elements;
6		and
7		means for executing the first query string to retrieve results from one or more source data
8	tables.	
1	34.	A data processing system according to claim 33, further comprising:
2		means for reading a second plurality of elements of a query from a second set of one or more
3	tables	
4		means for assembling a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of
5	eleme	nts;
6		and
7		means for executing the database table storage command to modify a target data table.

1	35.	A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure including:
2		a name of a first table that includes data to be processed; and
3		a name of a second table that includes arguments to be used in composing a database
4	comm	and to process the data.

1 36. The computer readable medium according to claim 35, wherein the data structure further 2 includes identification of an SQL command to be used in processing the data.